



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - July 21, 2003

- ***In the West***, showers associated with the monsoon (summer rainy season) are providing limited drought relief across the ***Southwest***. Meanwhile, hot, dry weather is maintaining stress on dryland crops across the ***Northwest***.
- ***On the Plains***, very hot weather continues to stress pastures and summer crops across the ***southern half of the region***, where today's high temperatures are forecast to approach 105 degrees F. Hot weather also persists on the ***northern High Plains***. Meanwhile, favorably cooler weather and isolated showers are spreading across the remainder of the ***northern half of the Plains***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, temperatures remain favorable for reproductive corn and soybeans, while soil moisture is mostly adequate. Pockets of excessive wetness linger across the ***eastern Corn Belt***, where winter wheat harvest delays persist and a cold front is sparking locally heavy showers and thunderstorms.
- ***In the South***, scattered showers are maintaining a wet weather pattern in the ***southern Atlantic region***, while an approaching cold front is triggering generally beneficial showers in the ***Tennessee Valley***.

Outlook: A cold front will bring showers and thunderstorms to the ***Great Lakes States and Ohio Valley*** before stalling over the ***Atlantic Coast States*** by mid-week. In the front's wake, cooler-than-normal weather will settle across the ***Corn Belt***. Farther south, warm, humid conditions will contribute to afternoon showers along the ***Gulf Coast***, while mostly dry weather will prevail on the ***southern Plains***. Elsewhere, a weak disturbance will provide the threat of severe weather in portions of the ***northern and central Plains***, while monsoon showers will continue in the ***Southwest***. Hot, mostly dry conditions will prevail in the ***central and northern Rockies and Great Basin***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for July 26-30 calls for above-normal temperatures from the ***Rockies westward to the Pacific Coast***, while below-normal temperatures will be confined to the ***Great Lakes region***. Above-normal precipitation is expected along the ***East Coast***, but the remainder of the U.S. will receive near- to below-normal rainfall.

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